(b) The details are as under:

| Year; | Quantity of Bank/ Currency Note Paper actually produced at Security Paper Mill, Hoshangabad. |
|---|---|
| | (In Metric Tonnes) |
| 1989-90 . . | 2867·7 |
| 1990-91 . . | 3020·0 |
| 1991-92 . . | 2906·6 |

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The following quantities of Currency/Bank Note Paper for various denominations were imported during the last three years:—

| Year | Quantity (MTs.) |
|---|---|
| 1989-90 . . . . | 877·346 |
| 1990-91 . . . . | 1268·770 |
| 1991-92 . . . . | 1113·586 |

**Customs Duty on import of Lactose**

4326. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the difference in the rate of Customs duty for import of Lactose by Homoeopathic Manufacturers/Homoeopathic Dealers and others;

(b) whether Government are aware that a large scale import of Lactose, in excess of past consumption, is taking place by Homoeopathic Manufacturers in North India and the same is showing falsely consumed and is actually being passed to Allopathic Trade at a premium;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Custom authorities at ICD, Delhi to protect revenue in such cases; and

(d) what are the details of imports at concessional rate of custom duty of Lactose month-wise during the last three years in the coutry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Lactose is liable to a Custom duty @ 140.36 per cent Ad-valorem. However, Lactose conforming to Homoeopathic Pharmacopoea of India specification and imported for manufacture of homoeopathic medicines is liable to Customs duty @ 65 per cent Ad-valorem in terms of exemption Notification No. 50/91-Cus. dated 25-7-91 as amended. The benefit in terms of aforesaid notification is available to only those importers who satisfy the end-use conditions prescribed in the notification.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Rules regarding sending of Funds abroad**

4327. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of rules and regulations under which sending of funds abroad can be prevented; and

(b) what are he details of the steps taken under the said rules during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Remittances outside India are regulated by the Reserve Bank of India who have delegated some powers to the Authorised Dealers to allow remittances subject to certain terms and conditions and monetary/percentage ceilings. All other remittances which are not covered by the powers delegated to the Authorised Dealers are required to be referred to the RBI for approval. Without RBI's approval, such remittances would be illegal, and when such instances are noticed, the Enforcement Directorate

deals with them under the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973.

**Smuggling of Petrol and Kerosene**

4328. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been any increase in the incidents of smuggling of fuel such as petrol and kerosene by LTTE terrorists from Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to check the smuggling?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) and (b) Customs authorities have detected cases of smuggling of petroleum products by smugglers/fishermen from the coast of Tamil Nadu to Sri Lanka. The quantity and value of petrol, kerosene, diesel and other petroleum products seized by Customs authorities during the last 3 years are given in the table below. However, since smuggling is a clandestine activity, it is not possible to say whether such smuggling of fuel has increased.

| Description | 1990 | | 1991 | | 1992 (upto J ul | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Qty. in ltrs.) | Value (Rs. in thousands) | Qty. in ltrs.) | Value (Rs. in thousands) | Qty. in ltrs.) | Value (Rs in thousands) |
| Petrol . . . . | 2,645 | 33·0 | 5,275 | 65·8 | 735 | 11·8 |
| Kerosene . . . . | 2,767 | 8·2 | 1,790 | 5·7 | 1,000 | 4.8 |
| Diesel . . . . . | 49,035 | 23·0 | 14,190 | 78·0 | 3,515 | 24·3 |
| Other Petroleum Products . . | | | | | 2,730 | 62·9 |

(c) The Customs field formations are alert against smuggling activities including that of petroleum products along the coast of Tamil Nadu. The Central Reserve Police Force, the Navy and the Coast Guard have also been deployed in the area. Close coordination is being maintained among all the agencies concerned in the detection and prevention of smuggling including that of petroleum products.

**Minorities Cooperative Banks Operational in the country**

4329. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of Cooperative Banks of the Miorities functioning in the country;

(b) what is the financial position of these Minorities Cooperative Banks;

(c) whether Government propose to grant special subsidy to Minorities Cooperative banks; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to encourage the establishment of minorities cooperative banks on the lines of minorities Financial Development Cooperation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) As per the